Amendments to Claims

16. (Currently Amended) An isocyanate adduct useful as an isocyanate crosslinking agent in solvent borne coating compositions, wherein said isocyanate adduct is a product obtained by the reaction of:

(1) a gelled acrylic polymer with

(2) an excess of polyisocyanate compounds,

wherein said gelled acrylic polymer is dispersed in an organic liquid carrier, and consists essentially of:

(i) a crosslinked core comprising polymerized ethylenically unsaturated monomers, wherein the core is not soluble in the organic liquid carrier, and

(ii) ~~chemically grafted to said core~~ linear stabilizer polymeric components chemically grafted to said core, wherein said linear stabilizer components have ~~having~~ weight average molecular weights in the range of about 500-20,000 as determined by GPC (gel permeation chromatography) using polystyrene as standard,

wherein:

(a) said stabilizer components comprise polymerized ethylenically unsaturated monomers;

(b) said stabilizer components are soluble in the organic liquid carrier; ~~and~~

(c) the core (i), the stabilizer polymeric components (ii), or both (i) and (ii) contain isocyanate-reactive hydroxy and/or secondary amine functional groups attached thereto; and

(d) the excess of polyisocyanate compounds are present in an amount so that the ratio of NCO to OH/NH groups ranges from 5:1 to 50:1.

17. (Original) The adduct of claim 16, wherein the dispersed acrylic polymer comprises 30-70% by weight of the core and 70-30% of linear stabilizer polymeric components.

18. (Previously Presented) The adduct of claim 16, wherein the linear stabilizer polymeric components consist of macromonomers that are polymerized into the core via a single terminal point of ethylenic unsaturation of the macromonomers and the monomers that form the macromonomers are polymerized in the presence of a cobalt chain transfer agent to provide the single point of ethylenic unsaturation.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The adduct of claim 16, wherein the isocyanate reactive hydroxyl and/or secondary amine functional groups of the dispersed gelled acrylic polymer are concentrated essentially only on the stabilizer components.

23. (Original) The adduct of claim 16, wherein the core of the dispersed gelled acrylic polymer consists of polymerized monomers of styrene, hydroxy ethyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, methacrylic acid, allyl methacrylate and methyl acrylate and the linear stabilizer components of the dispersed gelled acrylic polymer consisting of polymerized monomers of butyl methacrylate, isobornyl methacrylate, 2-ethyl hexyl methacrylate, hydroxy ethyl methacrylate and t-butyl aminoethyl methacrylate, with the polymer being post reacted with a polyisocyanate to attach isocyanate groups thereto.

24. (Original) The adduct of claim 16, wherein the core of the dispersed gelled acrylic polymer consists of polymerized monomers of styrene, methyl methacrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, hydroxy ethyl acrylate, methacrylic acid, methyl acrylate and the linear stabilizer components of the dispersed acrylic polymer consist of polymerized monomers of styrene, butyl methacrylate, butyl acrylate, hydroxy ethyl acrylate, methacrylic acid, isobornyl methacrylate and glycidyl methacrylate, with the polymer being post reacted with a polyisocyanate to attach isocyanate groups thereto.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) The adduct of claim 16 wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of 1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate, isophorone diisocyanate, the trimer of 1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate or the trimer of isophorone diisocyanate.

27. (New) The adduct of claim 16 used as an isocyanate crosslinking agent wherein, after the reaction of the gelled acrylic polymer with the excess of polyisocyanate compounds, a portion of the excess of polyisocyanate compounds remain unattached to said gelled acrylic polymer.

28. (New) The isocyanate adduct of claim 16 wherein the polyisocyanate compounds are selected from the group consisting of aromatic, aliphatic and cycloaliphatic polyfunctional isocyanates having at least two isocyanate groups per molecule.

29. (New) The isocyanate adduct of claim 16 wherein the polyisocyanate compounds are selected from the group consisting of 1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate, isophorone diisocyanate, 4,4'-biphenylene diisocyanate, toluene diisocyanate, bis cyclohexyl diisocyanate, tetramethylene xylene diisocyanate, ethyl ethylene diisocyanate, 2,3-dimethyl ethylene diisocyanate, 1-methyltrimethylene diisocyanate, 1,3-cyclopenthylene diisocyanate, 1,4-cyclohexylene diisocyanate, 1,3-phenylene diisocyanate, 1,5-naphthalene diisocyanate, bis-(4-isocyanatocyclohexyl)-methane, diisocyanatodiphenyl ether, triphenylmethane triisocyanate, 1,3,5-benzene triisocyanate, 2,4,6-toluene triisocyanate, the trimer of hexamethylene diisocyanate and the trimer of isophorone diisocyanate.